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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 1. (currently amended) A method for translating control messages between a
2 network manager and a router, the method comprising:

3 sending an input command message from the network manager to the router, said
4 input command message expressed in terms of a logical router partition;

5 intercepting, at a host having a translator module, the an input command message
6 intended for said router, said router partitioned into a plurality of logical router partitions, said
7 input command message expressed in terms of a logical router partition;

8 translating the logical router partition expressed in said input command message
9 into a physical router expression;

10 altering the input command message thereby the logical router partition
11 expression is changed to the physical router expression; and

12 propagating said input command message, including any altered translated
13 expressions, from the host toward said router.

1 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of translating comprises:
2 translating a logical target identifier to a physical router target identifier.

1 3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said intercepting step comprises:
2 indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of said input
3 command message.

1 4. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 intercepting a return message from the router, said return message expressed in
3 physical router terms;

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4 translating said physical router expression of said return message into a logical
5 router partition and
6 propagating said translated return message toward said network manager.

1 5. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein said step of translating said physical
2 router expression comprises:
3 translating a physical router target identifier to a logical target identifier.

1 6. (previously amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising determining
2 said logical target identifier from a return correlation tag of said return message and an index, an
3 input and the return correlation tags having a predetermined relationship.

1 7. (original) The method of claim 4, wherein the return message comprises at least
2 one of a command response message and an acknowledgment message.

1 8. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 intercepting an autonomous message from one of the network elements, said
3 autonomous message expressed in terms of an access identifier;
4 matching the access identifier with an associated logical target identifier;
5 translating the physical router target identifier to the logical target identifier; and
6 propagating the translated autonomous message toward the network manager.

1 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the autonomous message comprises an
2 alarm message.

1 10. (currently amended) A method for translating control messages between a
2 network manager and a router, said router represented as a plurality of logical partitions, said
3 method comprising:

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4 intercepting, at a host having a translator module, an input transaction language
5 (TL1) message from the network manager intended for the router, wherein the first TL1 message
6 is expressed with a logical target identifier;
7 translating the logical target identifier of the intercepted input TL1 message to a
8 physical router target identifier;
9 altering the TL1 thereby the logical target identifier is changed to the physical
10 router target identifier; and
11 propagating the translated TL1 message, including any altered ~~translated~~
12 expressions, from the host toward the router.

1 11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein said intercepting step further
2 comprises:
3 indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of said input
4 TL1 message.

1 12. (previously amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
2 intercepting a return transaction language (TL1) message from the router to the
3 network manager, wherein the return TL1 message is expressed with a physical router target
4 identifier;
5 translating the physical router target identifier of the intercepted return TL1
6 message to a logical target identifier; and
7 propagating the TL1 message, including any translated expressions, toward the
8 router.

1 13. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising determining said logical
2 target identifier from a return correlation tag of said return message and said index, wherein said
3 input and return correlation tags are equivalent.

1 14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the return TL1 message comprises at
2 least one of a command response message and an acknowledgement message.

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1 15. (original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
2 intercepting an autonomous TL1 message from one of the network elements, said
3 autonomous TL1 message expressed in terms of an access identifier;
4 matching the access identifier with an associated logical target identifier;
5 translating the physical router target identifier to the logical target identifier; and
6 propagating the autonomous message, including any translated expressions,
7 toward the network manager.

1 16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the autonomous TL1 message
2 comprises an alarm message.

1 17. (currently amended) Apparatus for routing control messages between a network
2 manager and a router, comprising:
3 means for intercepting, at a host having a translator module, an input command
4 message intended for said router, said router partitioned into a plurality of logical router
5 partitions, said input command message expressed in terms of a logical router partition;
6 means for translating each logical router partition expressed in said input
7 command message into a physical router expression;
8 means for altering the input command message thereby the logical router partition
9 expression is changed to the physical router expression; and
10 means for propagating the input command message, including any altered
11 translated expressions, from the host toward the router.

1 18. (original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein said translating means comprises:
2 translating a logical target identifier to a physical router target identifier.

1 19. (original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said intercepting step comprises:
2 means for indexing said logical target identifier with an input correlation tag of
3 said input command message.

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- 1 20. (original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising:
2 means for intercepting a return message from the router, said return message
3 expressed in physical router terms;
4 means for translating said physical router expression of said return message into a
5 logical router partition; and
6 means for propagating said return message, including any translated expressions,
7 toward said network manager.